2001 Census, Agricultural Labourers constitute 26.5% of total workers. These include main workers (A person who had worked for 6 months or more during the reference period) and marginal workers (A person who had worked for less than 6 months during the reference period).

(c) The Government is implementing various employment oriented schemes and programmes through various Ministries/Departments. These schemes are Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar yojana; Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, etc. The Government has recently enacted National Rural employment Guarantee Act, which provide 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

Coverage of entire child labour under the New Act

2356. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 2001—census lists about 1,85,000 children working as domestic help and 75,000 working in restaurants and dhabas-against a total of 20 million working in these sectors as estimated by some NGOs;

(b) whether the latest ban on child labour has simply added a few hazardous occupations to the existing Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and still does not cover the entire child labour force, mainly in agricultural sector, where 80 per cent of the working children can be found; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure that all the children of school-going age are in schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) As per the census 2001, which is the most authentic source of information about child labour, 1,85,505 children are engaged as domestic servants and 70,934 are engaged in restaurants, dhabas, and tea shops, etc., in the country in the

age group of 5-14 years. The basis of estimate given by NGOs referred in the question is not known.

(b) Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, children are prohibited under the hazardous occupations and processes which are listed under the Act. The list is being progressively expanded. Under the recent Notification issued on 10th October 2006, two more categories of occupations have been added to this prohibited list bringing a total of 15 occupations and 57 processes under the prohibited list. The list includes processes in agriculture, where tractors, threshing and harvesting machines are used and chaff cutting.

(c) The Government has launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) under the Ministry of Human Resource Development to provide education to all the children in the country in the age group of 6-14 years. These efforts are supplemented by this Ministry's scheme of National Child Labour Project (NCLP), under which working children, who constitute one of the most difficult segments of child population, are put in special schools, and provided enabling environment so as to prepare them to join mainstream education.

Tripartite Committee for Pharmaceutical Industry

2357. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recommendation for setting up of an Industrial Tripartite Committee for Pharmaceutical industry is under consideration of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.